

SHOCKING MURDER.

Dead Body of Mrs. Kensmann Found.

The Kansas City Woman Who Disappeared

KILLED AND ROBBED.

Boys Discover Body in an Unoccupied House.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 23.—The frozen corpse of Mrs. Johanna Petersen Kensmann, wife of Dietrich Kensmann, who disappeared Tuesday afternoon with \$975 in her possession, was found yesterday afternoon at 3:15 o'clock in an unoccupied house at 1425 Baltimore avenue. A brutal murder, either by strangulation or chloroform, perhaps by both, had been done. The body had been robbed.

The manner in which the awful crime was accomplished is not definitely known. It is believed that she was cleverly decoyed into the house, choked into insensibility and chloroformed—then robbed and left dead upon the floor.

The crime was remarkable in many respects. The usual marks of violence were absent. The woman looked, as she lay upon the floor, as if asleep, though in an uncomfortable posture. There was no finger prints upon the throat, no signs of struggle in the room. It required the closest kind of post mortem examination before the coroner would give his opinion as to the method employed in the murder.

So difficult was it at first to ascertain the cause of the woman's death that even the chief of police became convinced that he had in hand no more serious a case than that of the robbery of a corpse.

He was of the opinion for a time that the woman had wandered, while temporarily demented, into the vacant house, and, lying down upon the floor to sleep, had frozen to death.

The work was marvelously well executed, even for an adept at crime, though hastily, as was shown by the manner in which the woman's clothing was torn in getting her valuables. Besides the \$975 the woman had when she disappeared, was a gold hunting case lady's watch with a diamond setting. This was wrenched from her person so violently as to break the chain near where it was attached to her garment. A very clever criminal might not have taken this.

The police were left without any clue whatever of a substantial nature. They were totally at sea late last night. Some were even inclined to yet express doubt as to whether the woman was murdered, but those best informed believed any other theory absurd.

The body was found by two boys who in turn notified the police.

It seems certain that whoever robbed Mrs. Kensmann knew that she carried most of her money in a pocket-book hidden in her bosom. That anyone besides Kensmann knew his wife's habit in respect to the concealment of her money is not known.

How long the woman was dead, when she entered the house where her corpse was found, and who secured her money are among the questions that are unsettled. The detectives have practically no clue of value to work on. At present they are working to solve the robbery, knowing that thereby they will reach the murderer, if the woman was killed at all.

MISSOURI REPUBLICAN CLUBS.

Two Thousand Delegates Representing 800 Clubs Meet at Springfield.

Saint Louis, Mo., Feb. 23.—Routine business uninterrupted by any factional clash of moment occupied yesterday's attention of the Missouri Republican league clubs meeting. It was the first day of the eighth annual gathering and there was nothing to do at the meeting but to organize, pass resolutions, fix a time for the next meeting and to elect officers. Two thousand delegates representing nearly 800 clubs reported. A street parade at 10 o'clock was followed by an address of welcome by Judge W. D. Hubbard of this city, at the Grand Opera house, and a response by J. H. Harkless of Kansas City, president of the state league. Chauncey L. Filley of St. Louis spoke on the tariff in the afternoon and Hon. J. K. Cubison of Kansas addressed the delegates last night. The resolutions endorse the course of the Republican party, arraign the Democratic party for tariff tinkering, denouncing the Wilson bill and incite young Democrats to renounce the old party and join the Republicans.

SIX MINERS KILLED.

Terrific Explosion Occurs in the Mines at Bloomsburg, N. Y.

RATON, N. M., Feb. 23.—At 9:30 yesterday morning a terrific explosion occurred in the coal mines at Bloomsburg, three miles southwest of here, and soon a band of rescuers were at work to investigate the amount of damage done, and, if possible, give succor to those within. Six bodies have been recovered, and it is believed that two Italians, who are missing, are in the mine and probably dead.

From the best information obtainable it is probable that the explosion was caused by gas in an entry being ignited by a miner's light.

W. C. Howard for Congress.

LAWRENCE, Kan., Feb. 23.—W. C. Howard of Baldwin, decided to become a candidate for the Republican nomination for congress from the Second district.

Following the Dalton Gang.

WAYNAN, Okla., Feb. 23.—Thirteen deputy marshals, headed by T. Little, have just left here in hot pursuit of the remainder of the Dalton gang. A battle is expected.

PROPOSED CHANGE OF RULES.

Call for a House Democratic Caucus to Consider the Subject Circulated.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Some of the Democratic members of the house who think measures must be taken to prevent repetitions of the dead-lock in which the house finds itself on the seigniorage bill, framed a petition for a caucus yesterday. The petition is broadly worded, stating that the call is for the purpose of considering the rules of the house with reference to the course that should be pursued by the members who fail to vote and that the caucus shall be held as soon as the petition will be laid on the table.

Representative Paynter has drawn up the form of a rule which he will propose, for voting members, as present but not voting. It proposes that they shall be counted by the speaker as present for the purpose of making a quorum.

Mr. Paynter's proposed rule is somewhat similar to that presented by Representative DeArmond of Missouri but omits the line which DeArmond would inflict for refusal to vote.

GULF AND INTER-STATE.

Work to Commence on the Line in Two Weeks.

WICHITA, Kan., Feb. 23.—The executive board of the Gulf and Inter-State railroad company, the proposed North and South popular subscription railway, was in session here yesterday, but nothing important developed. President Stodart of Omaha made the statement that money sufficient to build 200 miles of the road was already on hand and that graders and track-layers would be at work at Port Bolivar, Texas, in two weeks from now. The Port Bolivar people have made large promises to the promoters of the enterprise.

MR. GROW'S PLURALITY.

With All But Nine Counties Heard From It Reaches 186,132.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 23.—Official returns from all but nine of the sixty-seven counties in this state send Grow's plurality up until the unprecedent figure of 186,132 is reached. All of the official returns show Republicans gains over the election night estimates; therefore, it is fair to assume that the official figures from the nine missing counties will produce increases that will give Grow not less than 183,000 plurality.

SAND STORM IN CALIFORNIA.

A Passenger Train Blown From the Track by the Hurricane.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., Feb. 23.—The worst sand storm in years is raging in this vicinity. The storm seems to extend from Mojave to Oceanside and from Los Angeles to Indio. A San Bernardino passenger train was blown from the track but no one was injured. Much damage has been done the orange crop and the fruit has fallen and covered the ground in many places.

FATAL BOILER EXPLOSION.

Five Men Killed and Several Injured at Le Compte, La.

LE COMPTE, La., Feb. 23.—Five men were killed and several others injured by the explosion of a boiler in the oil mill of Messrs. Freeman & Dailey here last night. The building was totally wrecked.

LARGEST ON RECORD.

Bank of England's Reserves Never so Big—Other News.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—The Times in its financial article, comments on the bank statement, which it says is remarkable, and shows the highest reserve on record. It regards the statement as an indication of the prolonged cheapness of money.

It is stated that the government has issued an order prohibiting any demonstration on the occasion of the funeral of the archbishop of York.

A dispatch to the Telegraph from Rome says: J. C. Haywood, one of the best known American residents of Rome, has presented to the pope valuable manuscripts giving the complete correspondence of the pope with the King and Queen of Spain concerning the voyage of Columbus.

The Daily News says: Lord Salisbury advises the house of lords not to insist upon the critical amendments to the Parallel councils bills, with the exception of those which relate to charters.

An Order at Honolulu.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 23.—The steamer Oceanic from Hong Kong via Honolulu, arrived yesterday afternoon. She reported all quiet at the islands, the situation being unchanged since previous advices. D. T. Smith has been induced to fill a vacancy in the advisory council. He is the choice of the resolutions. The Republicans party, arraigned the Democratic party for tariff tinkering, denouncing the Wilson bill and incite young Democrats to renounce the old party and join the Republicans.

Expecta Through Back.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Feb. 23.—W. J. Buchanan, a druggist of this city, whose wife eloped last Monday with G. W. Elson, arrived yesterday morning from Clarinda, Iowa, bringing with him the woman and Elson. Before leaving St. Joseph Buchanan made terrible threats against Elson and told his friends he would shoot him on sight but he seems to have considerably cooled down.

A Cherokee Murdered.

TAHLEQUAH, I. T., Feb. 23.—Buckhorn, a fullblood Cherokee, was killed last night about two miles from here, on the road leading to his home. The body was found by some mail men coming to town. A bowie knife, a hat and two empty ginger bottles were found near the dead man. An examination showed that he had been stabbed in the region of the heart.

Found Two Human Skeletons.

OZARK, Mo., Feb. 23.—In a little cave about two miles north of Ozark, which Bruce McCoran was clearing out for a cellar, he found two human skeletons, one measuring seven feet in length. The skull is of gigantic size and very thick. The other skeleton is of ordinary size. It is supposed they are Indian remains.

We meet our customers laundry free of charge. Peerless Steam Laundry, 112 and 114 West Eighth.

NOT A BEER GARDEN.

Mr. Dockery Claims House Is No Such Place.

But Actions There Look Very Much Like It.

SERGEANT DEFIED.

The Warrants for Arrests Prove Faulty.

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Representative Paynter has drawn up the form of a rule which he will propose, for voting members, as present but not voting. It proposes that they shall be counted by the speaker as present for the purpose of making a quorum.

Mr. Paynter's proposed rule is somewhat similar to that presented by Representative DeArmond of Missouri but omits the line which DeArmond would inflict for refusal to vote.

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